

Claims

- [c1] A fuel cut-off control system for a vehicle, comprising:
- at least one crash sensor for detecting a fuel cut-off event and generating a crash signal during said fuel cut-off event;
 - a fuel supply system coupled to an engine and intended to deliver fuel to said engine;
 - a controller coupled to said at least one crash sensor and said fuel supply system, said controller for receiving said crash signal from said at least one crash sensor, disabling said fuel supply system, and generating a cut-off notification signal;
 - an indicator mechanism coupled to said controller and intended to receive said cut-off notification signal from said controller, said indicator mechanism for displaying a cut-off notification message to an occupant of the vehicle; and
 - a reset mechanism coupled to said controller, said reset mechanism operated by said occupant and intended to transmit a delivery-continuation signal to said controller for resuming fuel supply to said engine.
- [c2] The fuel cut-off control system as recited in claim 1

wherein said at least one crash sensor is an integral part of a supplemental restraint system having at least one airbag.

[c3] The fuel cut-off control system as recited in claim 1 wherein said indicator mechanism is a message display center.

[c4] The fuel cut-off control system as recited in claim 1 wherein said indicator mechanism is a digital clock display integrated within a dashboard of the vehicle.

[c5] The fuel cut-off control system as recited in claim 4 wherein said reset mechanism is at least one clock button.

[c6] The fuel cut-off control system as recited in claim 1 wherein said fuel supply system includes a fuel pump coupled to said controller.

[c7] A fuel cut-off control system for a vehicle, comprising:
at least one crash sensor for detecting a fuel cut-off event and generating a crash signal during said fuel cut-off event;
a fuel supply system coupled to an engine and intended to deliver fuel to said engine;
a controller coupled to said at least one crash sensor and said fuel supply system, said controller for receiving said

crash signal from said at least one crash sensor, disabling said fuel supply system, and generating a cut-off notification signal;

an odometer display mechanism coupled to said controller for receiving said cut-off notification signal from said controller and displaying a cut-off notification message to an occupant of the vehicle; and

a reset mechanism coupled to said controller, said reset mechanism operated by said occupant and intended to transmit a delivery-continuation signal to said controller for resuming delivery of fuel to said engine.

[c8] The fuel cut-off control system as recited in claim 7 wherein said at least one crash sensor is an integral part of a supplemental restraint system having at least one airbag.

[c9] The fuel cut-off control system as recited in claim 7 wherein said at least one crash sensor includes an electronic circuitry having a micromechanical accelerometer integrated therein.

[c10] The fuel cut-off control system as recited in claim 7 wherein said reset mechanism is a trip odometer button.

[c11] The fuel cut-off control system as recited in claim 7 wherein said fuel supply system includes a fuel pump

coupled to said controller.

- [c12] A method for installing a fuel cut-off control system in a vehicle, comprising:
 - installing at least one crash sensor in the vehicle;
 - electronically coupling said at least one crash sensor to a controller;
 - electronically coupling said controller to a fuel supply system;
 - electronically coupling said controller to an indicator mechanism; and
 - electronically coupling said controller to a reset mechanism.
- [c13] The method as recited in claim 12 wherein installing said at least one crash sensor in the vehicle comprises installing at least one airbag crash sensor in the vehicle, said airbag crash sensor being electronically coupled to a supplemental restraint system of the vehicle.
- [c14] The method as recited in claim 12 wherein electronically coupling said controller to said at least one crash sensor comprises electronically coupling said controller to an electronic circuitry having a micromechanical accelerometer integrated therein.
- [c15] The method as recited in claim 12 wherein electronically

coupling said controller to said fuel supply system comprises electronically coupling said controller to a fuel pump.

[c16] The method as recited in claim 12 wherein electronically coupling said controller to said indicator mechanism comprises electronically coupling said controller to an odometer display mechanism.

[c17] The method as recited in claim 16 wherein electronically coupling said controller to said reset mechanism comprises electronically coupling said controller to a trip odometer button.

[c18] The method as recited in claim 12 wherein electronically coupling said controller to said indicator mechanism comprises electronically coupling said controller to a digital clock display.

[c19] The method as recited in claim 18 wherein electronically coupling said controller to said reset mechanism comprises electronically coupling said controller to at least one clock button.

[c20] The method as recited in claim 12 wherein electronically coupling said controller to said indicator mechanism comprises electronically coupling said controller to a low-fuel indicator.

